

Fourth. To act in matters of voluntary relief and in accord with the military authorities as a medium of communication between the people of the United States of America and their Armed Forces, and to act in such matters between similar national societies of other governments through the "Comité International de Secours", and the Government and the people and the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

Fifth. And to continue and carry on a system of national and international relief in time of peace and apply the same in mitigating the sufferings caused by pestilence, famine, fire, floods, and other great national calamities, and to devise and carry on measures for preventing the same.

(Jan. 5, 1905, ch. 23, § 3, 33 Stat. 600; May 8, 1947, ch. 50, § 4, 61 Stat. 81; July 17, 1953, ch. 222, § 4(a), (b), 67 Stat. 179.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act of Congress June 6, 1900, referred to in text, is act June 6, 1900, ch. 784, 31 Stat. 277, which is not classified to the Code.

#### AMENDMENTS

1953—Act July 17, 1953, in first par. substituted "Armed Forces" for "armies" and, in fourth par. substituted "Armed Forces" for "Army and Navy" and struck out "and naval" after "military".

1947—Act May 8, 1947, included the treaty of July 27, 1929, in first and second pars.

#### CROSS REFERENCES

Cooperation and assistance to armed forces, see section 2602 of Title 10, Armed Forces.

Operation of American Red Cross vessels under Neutrality Act of 1939, see section 444 of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse.

#### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 1a, 2, 8 of this title.

### **§ 4. Repealed. June 25, 1948, ch. 645, § 21, 62 Stat. 862**

Section, acts Jan. 5, 1905, ch. 23, § 4, 33 Stat. 600; June 23, 1910, ch. 372, § 1, 36 Stat. 604, related to fraudulent representation or use of insignia. See sections 1, 706 and 917 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective Sept. 1, 1948, see section 20 of act June 25, 1948, set out as an Effective Date note preceding section 1 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure.

### **§ 4a. Membership; status of chapters; rules and regulations governing chapters; election of officers**

Membership in the American National Red Cross shall be open to all the people of the United States, its Territories, and dependencies, upon payment of the sums specified from time to time in the bylaws.

The chapters of the American National Red Cross shall be the local units of the corporation within the States and Territories of the United States. The regulations with respect to the granting of charters to the chapters and the revocation of the same, the territorial jurisdiction

of the chapters, the relationship of the chapters to the corporation and compliance by the chapters with the policies and rules of the corporation, shall be as determined from time to time by the Board of Governors. Such regulations shall require that each chapter shall, in the election of the governing body of the chapter and in the selection of delegates to the national convention of the corporation, adhere to democratic principles of election as specified in the bylaws.

(Jan. 5, 1905, ch. 23, § 4a, as added May 8, 1947, ch. 50, § 5, 61 Stat. 81.)

#### SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 1a, 2, 8 of this title.

### **§ 5. Board of Governors; number; election; tenure; filling vacancies; annual meetings; voting by proxy**

The governing body of the corporation in which all powers of government, direction, and management of the corporation shall be lodged, shall consist of a Board of Governors numbering fifty persons, to be appointed or elected in the manner following, namely:

(a) Eight Governors shall be appointed by the President of the United States. Of the Governors so appointed, one shall be designated by the President of the United States to act as the principal officer of the corporation with such title and such functions as may from time to time be prescribed in the bylaws; and the remainder shall be officials of departments and agencies of the Federal Government, whose positions and interests are such as to qualify them to contribute toward the accomplishment of Red Cross programs and objectives. Of these at least one and not more than three shall be selected from the armed forces.

(b) Thirty Governors shall be elected by the chapters. The Governors so elected shall be elected at the national convention under procedures for nomination and election which shall be such as to insure equitable representation of all the chapters, having regard to geographical considerations, to the size of the chapters and to the size of the populations served by the chapters.

(c) Twelve Governors shall be elected by the Board of Governors as members-at-large. The Governors so elected shall be individuals who are representative of the national interests which it is the function of the Red Cross to serve, and with which it is desirable that the corporation shall have close association.

The term of office of all Governors shall be three years, except that the term of office of any Governor appointed by the President of the United States (other than the principal officer of the corporation) shall expire if and when such Governor shall retire, prior to the date on which his term as Governor would otherwise expire, from the official position held at the time of his appointment as Governor.

Of the first Board of Governors to be selected hereunder, those Governors to be elected pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be elected at the first national convention follow-